

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A gross pathology breast map system for examining a breast tissue specimen while recording and maintaining an anatomical location of the specimen to a breast from which it was excised, the system comprising:

a. a top layer comprising a substantially hard, suturable, tackable material, and a graphic representation of a breast anatomy, said graphic representation illustrating:

i. a nipple located inside an outline of the breast;

ii. an axilla; and

iii. an alpha-numeric background grid to define a location of the specimen on the gross pathology breast map system; and

b. a second layer affixed and aligned to the top layer, wherein said second layer is made of an absorptive, suturable, tackable material, said second layer comprising a back surface, wherein said back surface comprises radio-opaque elements that correspond to the graphic representation of the top layer.

2. A gross pathology breast map system for examining a breast tissue specimen while recording and maintaining an anatomical location of the specimen to the breast from which it was excised, the system comprising:

a. a top layer made of a substantially hard, suturable, tackable material, said top layer comprising a graphic representation of a breast anatomy, said graphic representation showing a nipple located inside an outline of the breast, an axilla, and an alpha-numeric background grid to define a location of the specimen on the map;

b. a second layer affixed and aligned to the top layer, said second layer comprising an absorptive, suturable, tackable material; and

c. a third layer affixed to and aligned with the second layer, said third layer comprising radio-opaque markers that correspond to the graphic representation of the top layer.

3. A method for radiographically and histologically examining a breast tissue specimen while recording and maintaining the an anatomical location of the specimen to the breast from which it was excised, the method comprising:

- a. excising a tissue specimen from a breast location in a breast;
- b. affixing the tissue specimen on a gross pathology breast map in a map location that is substantially the same as the breast location;
- c. placing the gross pathology breast map with affixed specimen into a leakproof, resealable container;
- d. taking a radiographic image of the specimen; and
- e. submitting the gross pathology breast map with affixed specimen for pathologic sectioning.

4. A gross pathology breast map system for examining a breast tissue specimen while recording and maintaining the an anatomical location of the specimen to the breast from which it was excised, the system comprising:

- a. a top layer made of a substantially hard, suturable, tackable material, said top layer having a graphic representation of a breast anatomy, said graphic representation showing a nipple located inside an outline of the breast, an axilla, and an alpha-numeric background grid to define a location of the specimen on the map.
- b. a second layer affixed and aligned to the top layer, said second layer comprising an absorptive, suturable, tackable material, wherein the second layer further comprises a back surface, wherein said back surface comprises radio-opaque markers that correspond to the graphic representation of the top layer; and
- c. a third, detachable, radiosensitive bottom layer affixed and aligned to the second layer, said third layer comprising a second graphical representation of the breast aligned to the graphic representation of the top layer.

5. A method for radiographically and histologically examining a breast tissue specimen while recording and maintaining an anatomical location of the specimen to the breast from which it was excised, the method comprising:

- a. excising a tissue specimen from a breast location in a breast of a patient;
- b. identifying margins of the tissue specimen;
- c. affixing the tissue specimen on a gross pathology breast map in a representative location that is substantially representative of the breast location;

- d. placing the gross pathology breast map with affixed specimen into a leakproof, resealable container;
- e. taking a radiographic image of the specimen;
- f. removing a radiosensitive back layer from the gross pathology breast map and including it in a patient's chart; and
- g. providing the gross pathology breast map with affixed specimen for pathologic sectioning.

6. A radiographic and histologic kit for examining a breast tissue specimen while recording and maintaining an anatomical location of the specimen to the breast from which it was excised, the kit comprising:

- a. a gross pathology breast map;
- b. at least one marker selected from the group comprising colored inks, colored sutures, and colored staples; and
- c. a resealable, leakproof container.